00300070006-7 Executive Registry

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director

THROUGH

: Deputy Director for Support

4 DEC 1963

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SUBJECT

: Recreational Activities

REFERENCE

: Your Action Memo No. A-323, Subject: Agency Community Morale and Recreational Activities,

dated 10 Dec 63

I. This memorandum is for information only.

- 2. In April 1962 the Agency's recreation program consisted of only eight activities in which under 600 employees actively participated. On the basis of our belief that greater employee participation would result from an expanded program and that there existed an unsatisfied employee need for a better variety of recreational activities, this Office initiated an effort to organize new activities and to broaden the scope of the recreation program. That we were correct in our earlier belief that employees would respond to an improved program is shown by the attachment, which lists 27 activities in operation in December 1963 with almost 2900 active participants.
- 3. To date, recreational activities have been financed by dues paid by participants and from money received from the CIA Welfare Assistance Board. With the dramatic growth of the recreation program during the past 20 months, it soon became apparent that some new source of revenue had to be found before new activities and continued improvement of the program could be achieved. At the same time, it was felt that some formal mechanism was necessary to provide for the orderly management and organization of current and new activities. As a result, an Employee Association, known as the 25th Hour Recreation Association, was formed this month. The Association is a formal, unincorporated entity that will be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of five members, four of whom have been elected by the presidents of the current clubs and activities. I have appointed the fifth Director, the Chief, Benefits and Services Division, who has been elected President to the Board, thus assuring command participation in the management of this Association in the same manner as is done with the Northwest Federal Credit Union and the Government Employees! Health Association. To ensure full compliance with Agency security, cover, financial, and other policy and administrative requirements, the Board, at its first meeting held on 20 December 1963, has recommended the appointment of advisors.

4. In this new phase of its development, and through the impetus of the Association, the Agency's recreation program should enter a spirited period of growth and increased employee participation. An Agencywide membership drive will be conducted after the first of the year in the hope of increasing membership to employees in the Headquarters area. At the same time, the new Association plans to explore many additional new activities, such as a ticket service by which members can purchase tickets to plays, sports, and other events at a significant reduction in price. In addition, the Association will investigate the feasibility of organizing tours and vacation trips at reduced group fares as well as discount purchases of merchandise. One long range goal of the next several years, should the Recreation Association hopes for expanded membership and income-earning potential be fulfilled, would be to provide a gym, meeting rooms, bowling alleys, barber shop, beauty parlor, and a small PX, in the same fashion as has recently been accomplished by the National Security Agency through a building fund. At any rate, we are confident that the attention now being given to our recreation program will result in a significant increase in the number of activities and in employee participation and that the anticipated growth will more than satisfy employee needs for this specific type of outlet.

Emmett D. Echols
Director of Personnel

Attachment

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